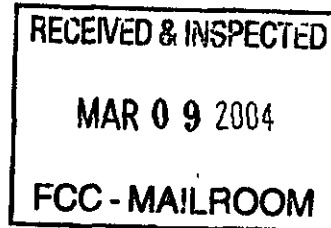


01-338

February 26, 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554



Dear Commissioner Powell:

I am contacting you to express my concern that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 may be seriously undermined if the D.C. Circuit strikes down the Federal Communications Commission's Triennial Review Order. The FCC's recent order was an important step in preserving the rules that keep competition alive, foster innovation and provide consumers with lower prices.

Eight years ago Congress passed historic telecommunications legislation that promoted competition in the local telecom market. Since then, the FCC has carefully implemented new rules and regulations to ensure competition continues to thrive. But competition in the local telephone service industry is being jeopardized by the courts' interference and the Bells' efforts to stifle competition.

Because of the Bells' constant attempts to seek full deregulation – in the absence of competition - challenge every rule that promotes competition, and deny competitors access to the critical pieces of the local network, competitors have only been able to garner a 14.7 percent local market share since passage of the Telecom Act. That is a poor showing. But the Bells stubbornly refuse to play by the rules and spent \$1.7 billion thwarting Congress and the FCC's efforts to promote competition. It is time for the Bells' anticompetitive behavior to be addressed at the highest levels!

Furthermore, if the D.C. Circuit throws out the FCC's Triennial Review Order, I strongly urge you to support the FCC in appealing this ruling to the Supreme Court. It is important that the FCC must continue to adhere to the competitive policies laid out in the Telecommunications Act to ensure consumers have a choice of telecom services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Hannah".

Justin Hannah